

Message Text

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17

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 DRC-01 /093 W

----- 054594

R 111412Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3526

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (OGBEMUDIA, S.O.), NI

SUBJECT: TRAVEL BY MILITARY GOVERNOR

1. EMBASSY APRIL 10 ISSUED TO MID-WESTERN STATE GOVERNOR
BRIGADIER OSAIGBOVE OGBEMUDIA A-2 VISA VALID ONE YEAR,
MULTIPLE ENTRY. GOVERNOR PLANS ARRIVE US SOMETIME IN MAY
ACCOMPANIED BY AIDE-DE-CAMP, LT. IGBITI EGIETHUA. LENGTH OF
STAY UNKNOWN, BUT GOVERNOR ASKED THAT VISA BE VALID AT LEAST
THREE MONTHS. OGBEMUDIA'S PASSPORT ALSO CONTAINS VALID
VISAS ACQUIRED IN LAST FEW DAYS FOR CANADA, WEST GERMANY AND
BULGARIA. AT MOMENT, GOVERNOR APPARENTLY DOES NOT WANT VISIT
PUBLICIZED. NO OTHER DEFINITE INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

2. PURPOSE OF US VISIT PROBABLY COMBINATION MID-WESTERN STATE
BUSINESS AND TOURISM, WITH NO APPARENT PLANNED CALLS ON
USG OFFICIALS. GOVERNOR PROBABLY INTENDS VISIT FIRMS WITH
WHICH STATE DEALING OR NEGOTIATING. THESE MAY INCLUDE, AMONG
OTHERS: AMATEX EXPORT TRADE ASSOCIATION OF GREENVILLE,
SOUTH CAROLINA; TIFFANY INDUSTRIES OF HAZELWOOD, MISSOURI;
SEABOARD ARIED MILLING COMPANY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS; AND

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RESPECTIVE HEADQUARTERS GULF, PAN OCEAN AND PHILLIPS OIL

COMPANIES.

3. APPARENT PLANNED VISIT TO BULGARIA MIGHT INVOLVE
DISCUSSIONS WITH BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT OVER AUDITORIUM COMPLEX
BULGARIA IS CONSTRUCTING FOR 1975 BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL IN LAGOS.

4. COMMENT: OGBEMUDIA IS CERTAINLY MOST POPULAR AND PERHAPS
MOST COMPETENT OF MILITARY GOVERNORS. RECENTLY HE PUBLICLY
SUGGESTED IDEA OF PLEBISCITE TO DETERMINE WHO WILL RULE NIGERIA
AFTER 1976--SUGGESTION WHICH SOME BELIEVE MAY BE
DELIBERATE LAUNCHING OF TRIAL-BALLOON BY MILITARY
(LAGOS A-65).

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